

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re

U.S. Application:

For:

Takenori IDEHARA

INPUT-OUTPUT APPARATUS SELECTING METHOD  
FOR NETWORK SYSTEM

U.S. Serial No.:

09/082,127

Confirmation No.:

2348

Filed:

May 20, 1998

Group Art Unit:

2624

Examiner:

King Y. Poon

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

September 15, 2003

Date of Deposit

Brian E. Harris

Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered Representative

Signature

September 15, 2003

Date of Signature

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)**

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant wishes to bring the following items to the attention of the Examiner. A copy of each document is enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

No representation is made, and no representation is intended, that more relevant material does not exist, or that the order of presentation of this material in any way reflects its relative pertinence. The references cited below are not intended to constitute an admission of any kind. Specifically, this presentation is not an admission that the items listed below are properly citable against the above-identified application.

Submitted herewith is a copy of the Office Action (June 17, 2003) for counterpart Japanese Patent Application No. 1997-146083, along with the English translation thereof. The Japanese Office Action cites the following references in the order that they appear:

- (1) Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. (A) 8-204869, (CANON INC), published August 9, 1996;
- (2) Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. (A) 8-139837, (CANON INC), published May 31, 1996;
- (3) Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. (A) 8-305516, (SHARP KABUSHIKI KAISHA), published November 22, 1996;
- (4) Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. (A) 3-150614, (HITACHI LTD), published June 27, 1991;
- (5) Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. (A) 7-219729, (FUJI XEROX CO LTD), published August 18, 1995;
- (6) Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. (A) 6-022063, (RICOH CO LTD), published January 28, 1994; and
- (7) Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. (A) 7-319648, (FUJI XEROX CO LTD), published December 8, 1995.

Applicant would also like to bring the following documents to the attention of the Examiner:

- (8) Okano, U.S. Patent No. 5,987,225, issued November 16, 1999; and
- (9) Kuwamoto et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,353,399, issued October 4, 1994.


Documents (8) and (9) are U.S. counterparts of documents (3) and (4).

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.97(e), it is hereby certified that each item of information contained in this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of being first cited in a foreign communication in a counterpart foreign application, no fee is incurred. If it should be determined that a fee is required,

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please charge any required fee (other than the issue fee ) during the pendency of this application to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's Deposit Account No. 18-1260.

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
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